**Amendment to the Claims:**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. **(currently amended)** ~~Junction~~ A junction for a conveyor belt, ~~consisting~~ comprising of:

~~two~~ first and second half-junctions, ~~made from vulcanised rubber or a plastic material,~~ each ~~solidly attached respectively~~ attachable to one end of the conveyor belt, each of the half-junctions having a generally flat shape and a maximum thickness that is equal to or slightly less than that of the end of the conveyor belt ~~with which it is solidly attached,~~ and having substantially matching shapes that allow ~~them~~ the half-junctions to be interlinked such as to form a junction with a thickness that is at most equal to that of the ends of the conveyor belt, ~~said two~~ the half-junctions ~~comprising~~ including a flexible core, ~~textile or otherwise,~~ and being respectively equipped with cup inserts and bush inserts allowing the passage of an assembly means~~, of the rod type, arranged perpendicularly to the general plane of the junction, characterised~~ characterized in that,

-the ~~solid~~ attachment of each of the ~~two~~ half-junctions [[(3,4)]] with the corresponding conveyor belt end is provided~~, on the one hand,~~ by the flexible cores ~~(6), textile or otherwise, of the corresponding ends (1 or 1') of the conveyor belt~~, each of the cores [[(6)]] extending towards the inside of each half-junction ~~(3 or 4)~~ forming a fold [[(8)]] of the side of [[the]] at a free edge~~, or front edge~~ of each of the half-junctions ~~(3 or 4) next to said free edge, the male half-junctions (3)~~

the first half-junction comprising ~~two levels,~~ a top level [[(22)]] and a bottom level [[(23)]], the top level [[(22)]] containing the ~~folded core~~ fold and ~~the bottom level (23) only comprising the constituent material,~~ in which [[the]] a front edge [[(16')]] of the bottom level

as substantially the same shape as [[the]] a front edge [[(16)]] of the top level [[(22)]], but is shifted towards the rear at least by the distance that separates the front edge [[(16)]] of the top level from the cup inserts [[(13)]] that are the furthest from the front edge [[(16)]] of the top level, and

the ~~female half-junctions (4)~~ second half-junction comprising ~~two levels~~, a top level ~~(20) that only comprises the constituent material and~~ in which the shape of [[the]] a front edge [[(16" ')]] of the top level matches that of the front edge [[(16)]] of the matching ~~male half-junctions~~ first half-junction, and a bottom level [[(21)]] containing the ~~folded core (6, 7)~~ fold and the bush inserts [[(14)]], in which the front edge [[(16")]] of the bottom level is shifted towards the front in relation to the front edge [[(16" ')]] of the top level [[(20)]], so that the bush inserts align with the cup inserts its shape matching that of the front edge of the bottom level [[(23)]] of the ~~male~~ first half-junction, and

-the ~~solid~~ attachment of the ~~male (3) and female (4)~~ first and second half-junctions with each other [[is]] being provided by [[rod]] fasteners~~, such as rivets or studs, but preferably by means of screws (15),~~ in which [[the]] a head thereof rests against [[the]] a bottom of the respective cup inserts [[(13)]] and in which ~~the~~ a thread thereof is screwed into the ~~relevant~~ respective bush inserts [[(14)]], ~~which are threaded on the inside, or smooth in the case that self-tapping screws are used,~~ with neither the heads of the ~~screws (15)~~ fasteners nor their opposite ends ~~sticking out~~ extending beyond the outside surfaces of the half-junctions at the points where the ~~screws~~ fasteners are inserted.

2. (**currently amended**) ~~Junction~~ A junction for a conveyor belt according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the ends of the conveyor belt [[(1, 1')]] manufactured at the same time as the ~~male (3) and female (4)~~ half-junctions are still separate from [[a]] the

conveyor belt during the manufacturing stage of the half-junctions.

3. (**currently amended**) ~~Junction~~ A junction for a conveyor belt according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the bush inserts [[(14)]] are made in the ~~female~~ second half-junctions [[(4)]] so that the bush inserts [[(14")]] drives the edges of the hole of the two sections of the core [[(6, 7)]] that surround the bush inserts perpendicularly in the general plane of these layers and are therefore solidly attached to the ~~female~~ second half-junction [[(4)]] in two perpendicular planes by [[the]] a constituent material and the sections of the core that surround them.

4. (**currently amended**) ~~Junction~~ A junction for a conveyor belt according to claim 3, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the bush inserts comprise a section forming a flat flange [[(14')]] that is ~~solidly~~ attached to the actual bush section and arranged perpendicularly to the end of the bush [[(14")]] that is the closest to the outside surface of the bottom level [[(21)]] of the matching ~~female~~ second half-junction [[(4)]], only being separated from this surface by a thin layer of [[the]] a constituent material, these flanges extending in a plane that is parallel to the general plane of the half-junction and being solidly attached to the constituent material that surrounds them.

5. (**currently amended**) ~~Junction~~ A junction for a conveyor belt according to claim 4, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the cup inserts [[(13)]] are made in the ~~male~~ first half-junctions [[(3)]] so that the cup rests closely, by its sections that border the central hole, against the edges of the hole made in two sections of the core [[(6, 7)]], with which it is ~~solidly~~ attached by the surrounding constituent material.

6. (**currently amended**) ~~Junction~~ A junction for a conveyor belt according to claim 1, wherein ~~any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that~~ the front edge [[(16)]] of the top level [[(22)]] of the ~~male~~ first half-junction ~~consists of~~ has a succession of front edge sections ~~(16pp)~~ perpendicular to the longitudinal direction of the ~~male~~ first half-junction, separated from each other in the longitudinal direction and front edge sections that extend longitudinally, each of these front edge sections ~~(16pp)~~ perpendicular to the longitudinal direction being connected to the closest front edge ~~section or~~ sections that ~~is/~~are perpendicular to the longitudinal direction shifted towards the rear by front edge sections ~~(16pl)~~ that are parallel to the longitudinal direction, thus forming a broken line, the shapes of the front edge of the bottom level [[(23)]] of the ~~male~~ first half-junction [[(3)]], of the front edge of the top level [[(20)]] of the ~~female~~ second half-junction [[(4)]] and of the front edge of the bottom level [[(22)]] of the ~~female~~ second half-junction [[(4)]] resulting, as defined above, from the shape of the front edge of the top level [[(22)]] of the ~~male~~ first half-junction [[(3)]], the core [[(6)]] being slit longitudinally over the distances required to form shifted folds and the shifted folded sections corresponding to the shifted front edge sections.

7. (**currently amended**) ~~Junction~~ A junction for a conveyor belt according to claim 6, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the front edge of the ~~male~~ first half-junction ~~(3), in an outline sketch,~~ is in the shape of a broken line arranged overall obliquely across the half-junction.

8. (**currently amended**) ~~Junction~~ A junction for a conveyor belt according to claim 6, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the front edge of the ~~male~~ first half-junction [[(3)]], in an outline sketch, is in the shape of a broken line arranged in an overall V shape, the point pointing towards the front.

9. (**currently amended**) ~~Junction~~ A junction for a conveyor belt according to claim 6, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the front edge of the ~~male~~ first half-junction [[(3)]] alternately comprises first front edge sections ~~(16pp)~~ perpendicular to the longitudinal direction and second front edge sections ~~(16pp)~~ perpendicular to the longitudinal direction shifted towards the rear in relation to the first front edge sections ~~(16pp)~~.

10. (**currently amended**) ~~Junction~~ A junction for a conveyor belt according to claim 1, wherein ~~any one of the claims from 1 to 5, characterised in that~~ the front edge of the top level [[(22)]] of the ~~male~~ first half-junction [[(3)]] is in the shape of a V with its arms forming straight lines, the point of the V pointing towards the front, the shapes of the front edge of the bottom level [[(23)]] of the ~~male~~ first half-junction [[(3)]], of the front edge of the top level [[(20)]] of the ~~female~~ second half-junction [[(4)]] and of the front edge of the bottom level [[(23)]] of the ~~female~~ second half-junction [[(4)]] resulting from the shape of the front edge of the top level of the ~~male~~ first half-junction ~~as defined in the parent claim~~, and the folds of the core [[(6)]] being arranged obliquely in relation to the longitudinal direction, following the arms of the V of the shape of the front edges towards the rear.

11. (**currently amended**) ~~Junction~~ A junction for a conveyor belt according to claim 1, wherein ~~any one of the claims from 1 to 5, characterised in that~~ the front edge of the top level [[(22)]] of the ~~male~~ first half-junction [[(3)]] is ~~overall~~ substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal direction, with the exception of one or more V-shaped indentations ~~(19, 19')~~, the point of the V pointing towards the rear, which can also be in the shape of a concave curve, the core sections ~~(6, 7)~~ being indented also, following the shape towards the rear of the indentations of the front edges of the top level [[(22)]] of the ~~male~~ first half-junction [[(3)]], the shapes of the front edges of the bottom level [[(23)]] of the ~~male~~ first half-junction [[(3)]]

and of the top level [[(20)]] and of the bottom level [[(21)]] of the ~~female~~ second half-junction [[(4)]] resulting from the shape of the front edge of the top level [[(22)]] of the ~~male~~ first half-junction ~~(3) as defined in the parent claim~~, and the core sections ~~(6 and 7)~~ of the bottom level [[(21)]] of the ~~female~~ second half-junction [[(4)]] being indented following the shape of the indentations of the front edge of this bottom level [[(21)]] of the ~~female~~ second half-junction [[(4)]] towards the rear.

12. (**new**) A junction for a conveyor belt according to claim 1, wherein the first and second half-junctions are formed of vulcanized rubber or plastic.

13. (**new**) A junction for a conveyor belt according to claim 1, wherein the fasteners may be one of a screw, rivet, or stud.